Mr. George Hoffman
20040 Patrick Henry Highway
Jetersville, VA 23083

4/10/96

Dear Mr. Hoffman,

Delay in responding to your 3/20 was caused by several weeks in the hospital.

I must confess that after all the years of not thinking about it or related matters I was mixed up. As I try to think about it now I'm inclined to believe that the book I read more than 70 years ago was on Marion.

As I begin NEVER AGAIN!! saying the crime itself was never investigated officially, was never intended to be, so there is little likelihood of any smoking gun records having been collected or generated.

Thoe books inevitably did mislead and misinform because most of them are in varying degrees very bad books. Lifton's in particular. If Groden says it is raining and you are with him getting wet be sure it is raining before agreeing with him. He can be trusted of believed on nothing at all. He is a subject-matter ignoramus. As most of those who have written books are.

Because there was so little that could be genuinely embarrassing in the records there was little to destroy. I do know that the FBI got rid of a spectrographic plate and consumed a tiny specimen in the spectrographic flame but there is not much reason to believe there was any widespread destruction-of what did not exist to be destroyed.

There is no possibility at all that there was ever any reason to believe that single-bullet fabrication that was not even a theory. If you were familiar with my work you'd know that, and it all comes from the official records.

Howard Donahue, who wrote one of the most contemptible of the books, did not really duplicate the shooting attributed to Oswald. Those White tests were with a cart of straight tracks, with oversized targets for the body, and that rifle had been overhauled if they used the Oswald one and was better if they did not.

I am inclined to believe that "impartiality" is not possible. But I believe that fairness is. Not one of the multitude of whom I have written critivally has phoned or written to complain that I was unfair or inaccurate with regard to himself.

That curbstone, which was well in front of JFK, was also consigned to the memory hole. It was patched before being tested and the test did not disclose the core of any bullet. It was the curbstone spectro plate that was destroyed by the FBI.

Please escuse the haste.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg